

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (previously presented) A porous particulate composition comprising a hydrozirconated matrix further comprising at least one zirconium component and at least one polymer having a plurality of olefin groups wherein the zirconium component is chemically bonded to the matrix through hydrocarbon groups derived from reacting at least one zirconium compound with covalently bound olefin groups of the polymer.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the olefin groups are selected from the group consisting of vinyl, allyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, conjugated olefin groups, olefin groups having polar substituents and combinations thereof.
4. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer having a plurality of olefin groups is selected from the group consisting of divinylbenzene polymers, divinylbenzene copolymers, styrene/divinylbenzene copolymers, divinylbenzene resins, cross-linked divinylbenzene polymers, cross-linked butadiene polymers, styrene/butadiene copolymers, styrene/isoprene copolymers, vinylsiloxane polymers, vinylsiloxane copolymers, divinylbenzene/vinylsiloxane copolymers, condensation products of vinyl siloxane polymers and copolymers and combinations thereof.
5. (previously presented) The composition of claim 4, wherein polymers having a plurality of olefin groups are formed in the presence of porogens.
6. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein a plurality of olefin groups are disposed on surfaces of organic materials and one or more polymers.

7. (previously presented) The composition of claim 4, wherein the polymer having a plurality of olefin groups is a macroporous polymeric material prepared from a suspension polymer.

8. (previously presented) The composition of claim 7, wherein the macroporous polymer is prepared from divinylbenzene.

9. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of: at least one inorganic polymer, at least one hybrid organic-inorganic polymer and combinations thereof, each polymer having a plurality of olefin groups.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 9, wherein the olefin groups are selected from the group consisting of vinyl, allyl, alkynyl, alkynyl, conjugated olefin groups, olefin groups having polar substituents and combinations thereof.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (previously presented) The composition of claim 9, wherein a plurality of olefin groups are disposed on polymer surfaces.

13. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the polymer having a plurality of olefin groups is a vinylsiloxane.

14. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the zirconium component is an organozirconium compound capable of undergoing a hydrozirconation reaction.

15. (previously presented) The composition of claim 14, wherein the organozirconium compound is selected from the group consisting of bis

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(cyclopentadienyl)zirconium dihydride, bis (pentamethylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, bis (methylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, bis (n-butylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, bis (indenyl) zirconium dihydride, bis (1-fluorenyl) zirconium dihydride, bis (cyclopentadienyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, bis (pentamethylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, bis (methylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, bis (n-butylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, bis (indenyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, bis (fluorenyl) zirconium dihydrido chloride, bis (cyclopentadienyl)zirconium methyl hydride, bis (pentamethylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, bis (methylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, bis (n-butylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, bis (pentamethylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium (methyl)(hydride), bis (indenyl) zirconium methyl hydride, bis (1-fluorenyl) zirconium methyl hydride, methylene bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, methylene bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, methylene bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, ethylene bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, ethylene bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium hydrido chloride, dimethylsilyl bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, ethylene bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, dimethylsilyl bis(cyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, methylene(cyclopentadienyl) (tetramethylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium methyl hydride, methylene(cyclopentadienyl) (tetramethylcyclopentadienyl) zirconium dihydride, ethylenebis(indenyl)zirconium dihydride, ethylenebis(indenyl)zirconium hydrido chloride, ethylenebis(indenyl)zirconiummethylhydride, dimethylsilyl bis(indenyl)zirconium methylhydride, dimethylsilyl bis(indenyl)zirconium dihydride, dimethylsilyl bis(indenyl)zirconium hydrido chloride, ethylenebis(tetrahydroindenyl)zirconium methyl hydride, ethylenebis(tetrahydroindenyl)zirconium hydrido chloride, dimethylsilyl bis(3-

trimethylsilylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium dihydride, dimethylsilylbis(3-trimethylsilylcyclopentadienyl)zirconium methyl hydride, chemically and structurally related zirconium compounds and combinations thereof.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (previously presented) A porous particulate catalyst composition comprising a hydrozirconated matrix further comprising at least one zirconium component and at least one polymer having a plurality of olefin groups wherein the zirconium component is chemically bonded to the matrix through hydrocarbon groups derived from reacting at least one zirconium compound with covalently bound olefin groups of the polymer and at least one activator component.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (previously presented) A catalytic composition of claim 21, wherein the hydrozirconated matrix further comprises a plurality of catalytic components.

24. (previously presented) The catalyst composition of claim 21, wherein at least one activator component is selected from the group consisting of: alumoxanes, alkylalumoxanes, methylaluminoxane (MAO), modified methyl aluminoxane (MMAO), isobutylaluminoxane, butylaluminoxane, heptylaluminoxane and

methylbutylalumininoxane, aluminum alkyls, $Al(C_2H_5)_3$, $Al(CH_2CH(CH_3)_2)_3$, $Al(C_3H_7)_3$, $Al((CH_2)_3CH_3)_3$, $Al((CH_2)_5CH_3)_3$, $Al(C_6F_5)_3$, $Al(C_2H_5)_2Cl_4$, $Al_2(C_2H_5)_3Cl_2$, $AlCl_3$, boranes, organoboranes, trifluoroborane, triphenylborane, Tris(4-fluoro-phenyl)borane, Tris(3,5-difluorophenyl)borane, Tris(4-fluoromethylphenyl)borane, Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane, Tris(tolyl)borane, Tris(3,5-dimethylphenyl)borane, Tris(3,5-difluorophenyl)borane, Tris(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)borane, borates, organoborates, dimethylanilinium tetra(pentafluorophenyl) borate, sodium $[B\{3, 5 - (CF_3)_2C_6F_3\}_4]$, $[H(OEt_2)_1[B\{3, 5 - (CF_3)_2C_6F_3\}_4]$, triaryl carbenium tetraarylborates, N,N-dialkylanilinium borate salts, N,N-dimethylanilinium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate, N,N-diethylanilinium tetra(phenyl)borate, N,N-2,4,6-pentamethylanilinium tetraphenylborate, chemically related Group 13 compounds, dialkyl ammonium salts, di(i-propyl)ammonium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate, dicyclohexylammonium tetra(phenyl)boron, chemically related Group 13 anions, triaryl phosphonium borate salts, triphenylphosphonium tetraphenylborate, tri(methylphenyl)phosphonium tetra(phenyl)borate, tri(dimethylphenyl)phosphonium tetra(phenyl)borate, chemically related non-coordinating anions, and combinations thereof.

25. (previously presented) The catalyst composition of claim 21, wherein the hydrozirconated matrix is represented by a formula $[Cp^1Cp^2MR]^+ [NCA]^-$, wherein M is zirconium, Cp^1 is a substituted or non-substituted cyclopentadienyl ring and Cp^2 is the same or different, substituted or non-substituted cyclopentadienyl ring and may be bridged symmetrically or asymmetrically to Cp^1 , R is a hydrocarbyl group derived from the hydrozirconation of the polymer having a plurality of olefin groups and NCA is a non-coordinating anion selected from the group consisting of: dimethylanilinium tetra(pentafluorophenyl) borate, sodium $[B\{3, 5 - (CF_3)_2C_6F_3\}_4]$, $[H(OEt_2)_1[B\{3, 5 - (CF_3)_2C_6F_3\}_4]$, triaryl carbenium tetraarylborates, N,N-dialkylanilinium borate salts, N,N-dimethylanilinium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate, N,N-diethylanilinium tetra(phenyl)borate, N,N-2,4,6-pentamethylanilinium tetraphenylborate, chemically related Group 13 compounds; dialkyl ammonium borate salts, di(i-propyl)ammonium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate, dicyclohexylammonium tetra(phenyl)boron, triaryl

phosphonium borate salts, triphenylphosphonium tetraphenylborate, tri(methylphenyl)phosphonium tetra(phenyl)borate, tri(dimethylphenyl)phosphonium tetra(phenyl)borate, chemically related Group 13 anions, chemically related non-coordinating anions and combinations thereof.

26. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 [[and 21]], wherein the hydrozirconated matrix is prepared from polymers having particle diameters ranging from 2 nm to 1000 μ m.

27. (Withdrawn) An olefin polymerization process that comprises contacting at least one olefin monomer and at least one hydrozirconated matrix having at least one catalytic component, polymerizing the olefin monomer to produce a polyolefin.

28. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the olefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of unbranched aliphatic olefins having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms, branched aliphatic olefins having from 4 to 12 carbon atoms, unbranched and branched aliphatic α -olefins having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms, conjugated olefins having 4 to 12 carbon atoms, aromatic olefins having from 8 to 20 carbons, unbranched and branched cycloolefins having 3 to 12 carbon atoms, unbranched and branched acetylenes having 2 to 12 carbon atoms, and combinations thereof.

29. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the olefin monomer is a polar olefin monomer having from 2 to 12 carbon atoms and at least one atom selected from the group consisting of O, N, B, Al, S, P, Si, F, Cl, Br and combinations thereof.

30. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the olefin monomer is selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propene, 1-butene, 1-hexene, butadiene, styrene, alpha-methylstyrene, cyclopentene, cyclohexene, cyclohexadiene, norbornene, norbornadiene, cyclooctadiene, divinylbenzene, trivinylbenzene, acetylene, diacetylene, alkynylbenzene, dialkynylbenzene, ethylene/1-butene, ethylene/isoprene, ethylene/1-

hexene, ethylene/1-octene, ethylene/cyclopentene, ethylene/cyclohexene, ethylene/butadiene, ethylene/hexadiene, ethylene/styrene, ethylene/acetylene, propene/1-butene, propene/styrene, propene/butadiene, propene/1,6-hexadiene, propene/acetylene, ethylene/propene/1-butene, ethylene/propene/1-hexene, ethylene/propene/1-octene, and combinations thereof.

31. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein at least one polyolefin formed from the polymerization is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polypropylene, and polystyrene.
32. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the polymerization is a copolymerization of ethylene and higher α -olefins.
33. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the polymerization is a copolymerization of propene and higher α -olefins.
34. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the polymerization is a copolymerization of styrene and higher α -olefins.
35. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, further comprising stereospecific polyolefins.
36. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, further comprising stereoregular polyolefins.
37. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, further comprising polyolefins having stereospecific structures selected from the group consisting of atactic, isotactic, syndiotactic, hemi-isotactic and stereoregular block combinations thereof.

38. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, further comprising polyolefins incorporating a plurality of olefin monomers.
39. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of HDPE, LDPE, LLDPE and combinations thereof.
40. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the polyolefin is a copolymer of ethylene and α -olefins selected from the group consisting of 1-butene, 1-hexene and 1-octene.
41. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein a polyolefin particle essentially retains shape of a prepared matrix particle.
42. (Cancelled)
43. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the catalytic component is a single-site catalyst system.
44. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 27, wherein the polyolefin is prepared in a reactor system selected from the group consisting of gas phase reactors, slurry phase reactors and solution phase reactors and combinations thereof.
45. (Withdrawn) A coating process comprising depositing the hydrozirconated matrix of claim 1 on a substrate and polymerizing olefin monomer to produce a polyolefin coated surface, object or particulate.
46. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 45, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of clays, micas, silicates, metals, non-metal oxides, organometallic oxides and inorganic oxides.

47. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing a composite of substrate and polyolefin in-situ using the hydrozirconated matrix of claim 1 in combination with at least one substrate.
48. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 47, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of clays, micas, silicates, metals, non-metal oxides, organometallic oxides and inorganic oxides.
49. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 47, wherein polyolefin properties are modified.
50. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 49, wherein the property modified is fire retardancy.
51. (Withdrawn) A process for the production of hydrophobically modified particles in the form of spheres, surfaces and objects in which a catalytic hydrozirconated matrix is disposed on the surfaces thereof.

Interview Pursuant to 37 C. F. R. §1.133

Applicants thank the Examiner for a telephone interview of July 27, 2004. The §112, 1st paragraph rejection of claims 1-16 and 21-26 was discussed with the Examiner. Applicants discussed with the Examiner support of amendments to the pending claims. Examiner agreed to examine the amendments on their merits, that are supported by the specification.

Support for Amendments

Claim amendments are fully supported in the specification and support for the amendments is detailed under sections dealing with the Examiner's objections and rejections.

Claim Objections

Applicants acknowledge Examiner's objections to claims 26 and 42. Applicants have indicated claim 42 as cancelled. Applicants acknowledge Examiner's objections to claim 42 and will abandon the claim without prejudice to traverse Examiner's rejoicing the restricted process claims with the composition of matter claims for allowance. Applicants will revisit the issue of the scope of claim 42 with the Examiner in a corresponding divisional directed to the process. and have amended the claims to correct the informalities. Applicants have amended claim 26 to obviate the Examiner's objection.

Response to 35 U. S. C. §112, 1st ¶ Rejection of Claims 1-16 and 21-26

In the Office Action mailed April 29, 2004 claims 1-16 and 21-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st ¶ as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Examiner cites as examples, claims 2 and 22. Applicants have cancelled claims 2 and 22. Applicants, however, respectfully assert the rejection is improper as the

Examiner has not offered specific grounds for rejecting each of the remaining claims, namely 1, 3-16, 21 and 23-26. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and contend the amendments made to independent claims 1 and 21 obviates the Examiner's rejection. Support for the amendments to claim 1 is found at page 8, line 10 to line 19; page 5, line 18 to line 23; page 5, lines 29-31; page 18, lines 1-14; Examples 1-6. The amendment to Claim 3 did not introduce a new limitation and depends on claim 1. Support for the amendments to claim 4 is found at page 8, line 10 to page 10, line 22; Examples 1-6. Support for the amendments to claim 5 is found at page 8, line 10 to page 10, line 22; Example 1. Support for the amendments to claim 6 is found at page 4, lines 25-29; at page 8, line 21 to line 27. Support for the amendments to claim 7 is found at page 8, line 10 to page 10, line 22; Example 1. The amendment to claim 8 did not introduce a new limitation and depends on claim 1. Support for the amendments to claim 9 is found at page 4, lines 25-29; at page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 28; Examples 1 and 2. Support for the amendments to claim 10 is found at page 4, lines 25-29; at page 8, line 28 to page 9, line 28. Claim 11 is cancelled. Support for the amendments to claim 12 is found at page 8, line 24 to line 28. Support for the amendments to claim 13 is found at page 4, lines 25-29; at page 8, line 29 to page 9, line 28 and Example 2. The amendments to claim 14 and 15, respectively, did not introduce a new limitation, both claims depending on claim 1. Claim 16 was cancelled. Support for the amendments to claim 21 is found at page 4, lines 10-32; at page 8, line 10 to line 19; page 5, line 18 to line 23; page 5, lines 29-31; page 18, lines 1-14; Examples 1-6. Claim 22 was cancelled. Support for the amendment to claims 23 is found at page 5, lines 16 and 17. Support for the amendment to claims 24 and 25 is found at page 3, lines 1-12; at page 4, lines 1-3; at page 5, lines 16-23; at page 16, line 16 to page 17, line 30; at page 5, lines 4-9; at page 13, line 24 to page 16, line 14; and at page 10, lines 23-29. Support for the amendment to claim 26 is found at page 10, lines 4-7.

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